



2017 AUGUST CALENDAR

ERVING STATE FOREST

Park Interpreter: Natasha

Park Phone Number: (978) 544-3939

Contact Station located at: 122 Long Pond Road, Warwick, MA 01378

All programs are free and open to the public; however, the daily parking fee is \$8 for MA vehicles and \$10 for non-MA vehicles.

Programs subject to change. Reasonable accommodations available upon request. All children must be accompanied by an adult.

The **Erving SF Nature Center** is on Camp Road between Campsites 17 and 18.

The **Beachfront Interpreter Table** is located on the grass area by the handicap parking at Laurel Lake.

For more information please call the park, or visit: <http://www.mass.gov/eea/agencies/dcr/massparks/region-central/erving-state-forest.html>

Sunday	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3 Mobile Nature Center 10:30 – Noon	4 Creature Comforts 2:00 – 3:30 p.m. Nature Center Open House 4:30 – 6:30 p.m. Friday Night Flights 7:00 – 8:00 p.m.	5
6	7	8	9	10 Mobile Nature Center 10:30 – Noon	11 Smokey Bear's Birthday Party 1:00 – 2:00 p.m. Creature Comforts 2:30 – 3:30 p.m. Nature Center Open House 4:30 – 6:30 p.m. Friday Night Flights 7:00 – 8:00 p.m. Perseid Meteor Shower 9:00 – 10:00 p.m. (For Campground Guests Only)	12 Adventure to Beaver Lodge 3:00 – 4:30 p.m. Nature Center Open House 5:30 – 6:30 p.m. Campfire Tales: Secrets of Erving 7:00 – 8:00 p.m. Perseid Meteor Shower 9:00 – 10:00 p.m. (For Campground Guests and the Public)

13 KIDleidoscope 10:30 – 11:30 a.m. Mobile Nature Center 12:30 – 2:00 p.m. Laurel Loop Hike 2:30 – 3:30 p.m.	14	15	16	17 Mobile Nature Center 10:30 – Noon	18 Creature Comforts 2:00 – 3:30 p.m. Nature Center Open House 4:30 – 6:30 p.m. Friday Night Flights 7:00 – 8:00 p.m.	19 Adventure to Beaver Lodge 3:00 – 4:30 p.m. Nature Center Open House 5:30 – 6:30 p.m. Campfire Tales: Secrets of Erving 7:00 – 8:00 p.m.
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PROGRAM DESCRIPTIONS

Nature Center Open House	Would you be interested in seeing a dinosaur footprint, touching a beaver pelt, or learning about tree rings? Join the Park Interpreter at the Nature Center to do these and more! Come examine insects up close, complete an orienteering scavenger hunt, play games, and make your own campground journal to document your visit. There are many activities, crafts, and games for all ages. Bring your curiosity, excitement, and questions! All children must be accompanied by a parent/adult.
KIDleidoscope	Join the Park Interpreter for an interactive story-hour! Meet at the Nature Center for a story, outdoor activity, and craft. This educational program is designed for children ages 3 to 7, but older siblings are encouraged to join. All children must be accompanied by a parent/adult.
Campfire Tales: Secrets of Erving	Did you know a man lived in a stone “castle” in Erving State Forest? Have you seen the Beaver Lodges by Laurel Lake? Join the Park Interpreter next to the Nature Center for campfire story time! You will learn history of the park’s secret spots and how to visit them. We will discuss fire safety, hear Smokey Bear’s story, and play campfire games, like “Bat Tag” and “Family Feud: Camping at Erving”. Everyone is invited to join in the fun! Please wear suitable clothes and bring bug spray. Feel free to bring a foldable chair if you have one. Don’t forget your ingredients for s’mores! All children must be accompanied by a parent/adult.
Creature Comforts	Do you love to learn about animals? Join the Park Interpreter at the Beachfront Interpreter Table to learn about wildlife found in Erving State Forest. Each week we will focus on a different animal. All children must be accompanied by a parent/adult.
Mobile Nature Center	The Nature Center is coming to you! The Park Interpreter will be stationed at the Beachfront Interpreter Table each week. You can learn about animal tracks, examine fossils and rocks, take a close look at insects, play games, and more. You’ll be able to ask questions and learn about nature, all while beachside at Laurel Lake. All children must be accompanied by a parent/adult.
Friday Night Flights	Meet the Park Interpreter in the field across from the Nature Center for some activities before bed. We’ll play games to learn about the owls and bats that live in the park, plus catch (and release) some fireflies! All children must be accompanied by a parent/adult, but feel free to relax on the picnic table in the field while we run around. Wear comfortable clothes and sturdy shoes. It is recommended that you bring insect repellent, a water bottle, and a flashlight or headlamp.

Laurel Loop Hike	<p>There's so much to see on the Laurel Loop trail! The Park Interpreter will take a leisurely pace to complete this ¾ mile hike in about 1 hour. Come enjoy the seas of mountain laurel and bird songs, while learning about Erving State Forest. We will follow a stream, ascend gradual steps, and rest at the top to admire the view. The ending stroll takes us through shaded woods, completing the loop back to the parking lot. This hike is suitable for all ages capable of completing a moderate hike. Wear comfortable clothes and sturdy shoes. Bring insect repellent, water, and sunscreen as needed. All children must be accompanied by a parent/adult. Meet at the Contact Station near the parking lot.</p>
Adventure to Beaver Lodge	<p>Have you visited the park's beaver residents yet? Join for a guided hike to see where beavers and other wildlife live. You will learn about beavers, the different habitats along Laurel Lake, and how the animals all play special roles in those habitats. You will see beaver lodges and evidence of beaver tree cutting. We will take a comfortable pace, completing the 1 mile loop in about 1.5 hours, with rest stops near some of the beaver lodges. Although the trail is relatively level, there are some steeper spots and areas with rocks and moss. Wear comfortable clothes and sturdy shoes. Please bring plenty of water, plus insect repellent and sunscreen as needed.</p> <p>The hike will begin at the Salem State College Nature Trail by the Nature Center at 3:00.</p> <p><u>Day Visitors:</u> You may walk up to the Nature Center to start with the group at 3:00. -OR- Join the hike at the Salem State College Nature Trail marker on Laurel Lake Road. Please be to the trail marker by 3:10. Roadside parking spaces are available within ½ mile on either side of the trail marker.</p>

SPECIAL EVENTS

Smokey Bear's Birthday Party	<p>Smokey Bear is turning 73!! Come meet Smokey and celebrate with us. Join the Park Interpreter at the pavilion by Laurel Lake. You can learn how Smokey became the spokesman for fire prevention and safety, play games, get fire safety coloring sheets and activity pages, and more! This program is suitable for all ages. Bring insect repellent, sunscreen, and water as needed. All children must be accompanied by a</p>
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	<p>parent/adult. Please park in the main parking lot and walk down to the Pavilion. Come learn how YOU can help prevent wildfires!</p>
<p>Perseid Meteor Shower</p>	<p>Join the Park Interpreter to watch the yearly Perseid Meteor Shower! The streaks of light seen in this meteor shower are from the Comet Swift Tuttle. Swift-Tuttle is a large comet, measuring almost 16 miles across. It takes Swift-Tuttle about 133 years to complete a single orbit around the sun. While orbiting, dust and debris from the comet break off and become beautiful “shooting stars” traveling through the atmosphere.</p> <p>We will meet to learn about the comet and watch for some meteors shooting across the sky. Bring a chair or blanket for your comfort. It is recommended you bring bug repellent, water, and a flashlight.</p> <p>This program is being held on Friday August 11 and Saturday August 12. The Friday night program will be held in the field by the Nature Center at Erving State Forest for campground guests. The Saturday night program will be held in the field next to the parking lot at Mount Grace State Forest for both the public and Erving State Forest campground guests.</p>